

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /076 W
-----007396 031717Z /72

R 031155Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5454
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0666

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, LY, SU
SUBJECT: LIBYAN/SUDANESE RELATIONS

1. DURING COURTESY CALL, SUDAN'S NEW ARRIVED AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA ABDELMAGID BASHIR ELAHMADI TOLD ME SUDAN PLANS TO ESTABLISH EXPANDED OFFICIAL PRESENCE IN LIBYA. CURRENT PROJECTION CALLS FOR UP TO 15 DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS IN TRIPOLI AND CONSULATES IN BENGHAZI AND SEBHA. REASON FOR EXPANDED PRESENCE IS SUDANESE DESIRE TO MONITOR ITS OWN SECURITY INTERESTS AND PROMOTE STABILITY IN REGION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT, BECAUSE OF PAST EXPERIENCE WITH LIBYA, SUDAN WILL KEEP ITS EYES WIDE OPEN AT ALL TIMES.

2. AMBASSADOR AGREED THAT CHAD SITUATION HAD BECOME SOMEWHAT COMPLICATED, BUT INSISTED THAT QADHAFI HAD MADE COMMITMENT TO VICE PRESIDENT QASIM DURING RECENT VISIT TO PROCEED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF SEBHA AGREEMENTS. QADHAFI HIMSELF EMPHASIZED TO VICE PRESIDENT QASIM, ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR, THAT HIS OWN REPUTATION WAS AT
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STAKE IN THE PROCEEDING AND THAT HE FULLY INTENDED TO ACHIEVE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. AMBASSADOR ELAHMADI BELIEVES THAT CURRENT LIBYAN ATTACK ON FRENCH PRESENCE IS DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON MALLOUM TO ADHERE TO ORIGINAL AGREEMENTS.

3. AMBASSADOR FORECASTS THAT PRESIDENT NIMEIRI WILL VISIT LIBYA IN NEAR FUTURE. VISIT HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY

PROGRAMMED BUT IS BEING SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED IN KHARTOUM. VISIT TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO FOLLOW NIMEIRI'S TRIP TO EGYPT AND POSSIBLY TO DAMASCUS. ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR, SUDAN, AS MEMBER OF ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE, INTENDS TO PLACE MAIN EMPHASIS ON ACHIEVING EGYPTIAN/SYRIAN RECONCILIATION FOLLOWING WHICH THEY HOPE TO PERSUADE LIBYA TO ACQUIESCE IN WHATEVER MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS EMERGES.

4. AMBASSADOR ELAHMADI APPEARS FRIENDLY AND FRANK. EXTENT TO WHICH HE ACCURATELY REFLECTS VIEWS OF HIS GOVERNMENT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

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Message Attributes

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